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WASHINGTON (AP) - CIA Director Stansfield Turner told leaders of the nation's press Tuesday night that the last decade has seen a revolution in intelligence gathering that means "greater openness and maximum disclosure" to the public.

Turner, in an address to the American Society of Newspaper Editors, declared that no agency "can survive without public support.

"So today," he said "we're being more open. We're making more speeches, participating in more symposiums and publishing more and hoping to tell Americans what we do."

But at the same time, Turner said, "We must operate under a code of secrecy or we can't operate at all. By declassifying as much as we can, we hope to recreate respect for that which is classified."

Turner declared that the CIA is "the number one intelligence community in the world and it is my intent to stay number one."

Turner shared the platform with new FBI Director William H. Webster, who also voiced concern that the public's new-found desire for openness might impair his agency's effectiveness.

For example, he said, "If informants ever became convinced that the Freedom of Information Act prevents the FBI from keeping its promise of confidentiality, the performance of the FBI will be severely impaired."

The dinner meeting of the ASNE was hosted by the Washington Press Club.

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